THE QUEEN OF PARIS WASHERWOMEN.

A LAUNDRESS QUEEN.

Central Figure of Mid-Lenten Gayety in Paris.

MOST CHARMING OF WASHERWOMEN.

Jolly Maskers Will Make Merry at the Annual Carnival of Fun.

Extraordinary preparations are being made this year for the mid-Lenten masquerade in Paris, and according to the promises and projects it is likely that these fetes will come nearer to the glories of a Neapolitan carnival than anything that has been seeen in Paris these many years.

The show of 1896 is to take place on March 12, with its greatest ceremony, the triumphal passing through the streets of the French capital of the Queen of Queens and her retinue, amid all the magnificence of a triumphal car and the honor of being reviewed by France's Chief Executive himself.

There is one particular reason why these fetes will be notable. The shopkeepers have engaged to back the carnival strongly, and the students are entering more heartily into it than usual. But this is not so much the point. The event will be peculiarly notable because there is to be this year a particularly stunning "Reine des Reines," the very prettiest of the latter-day Trilbies of Paris.

For, in accordance with old custom, the queen of this day is selected from the ranks of the blanchisseuses, or laundresses, of the Parisian capital, and in this trade beautiful women are never lacking. The honor has fallen this year upon Henriette Defoulloy, who is one of the "clear starchers" of a famous establishment out at Belleville, in the suburbs, an establishment which has already provided several queens and maids of honor for this festival.

Mlle. Defoulloy is a dark-eyed, entrancing and slim brunette of seventeen. Her selection as queen is even a greater compliment than is usually implied in the choosing, for this year an entirely new system of picking out a queen has been adopted. In former years the candidates themselves used to gather together and choose one of their number. This Winter the candidates, of whom there were thirteen, were ordered to select five of their number, and these five afterward appeared before the male organizers of the fetes, who looked over them carefully and pronounced judgment, finally picking out Mlle. Defoulloy. The new system is a better one, for it does away with the traditional wire-pulling that there used to be when the girls themselves had the elective power.

To be a Queen of Queens in these mid-Lent festivals means a great deal to a Parisian laundress. She not only has the enormous public honor of being carried along the streets on a throne, and of having a popular verdict upon her charms, but she is also presented to the President of the Republic. Her emoluments, besides, are very considerable. The Carnival Committee gives her $100, and other golden perquisites come to her from the chief police officials of her district, from the municipal councillors and from others. Last year the queen received a splendid bracelet from President Faure. She is also given gala robes, and these include a garment that she can afterward use as a wedding dress. But the requirements of being a royal personage during the fete are hard for a Parisian girl to meet, for she must not only be beautiful and shapely, but she must be also clever, a perfect mistress of her trade, and of unblemished and undeniable character.

What has become of the former queens of these pageants is a subject that is interesting to pursue. The queen of the mid-Lent festivities of 1891 has been found to have recently married, and to be still a working laundress. Her gala togs have been completely worn out, and the only souvenir she possesses of her past glories is the diadem that once adorned her brow, now kept in her little parlor under a glass shade. The queen of 1893 has had a hard road to travel, for her marital life has been unfortunate, and she is now taking proceedings for a divorce. Mlle. Bonhomme, the queen of 1894, has recently been obliged to pawn her crown as well as her robes, and even the bracelet that Carnot, then President, clasped upon her arm on the fete day. For Bonhomme's father has become a bankrupt.

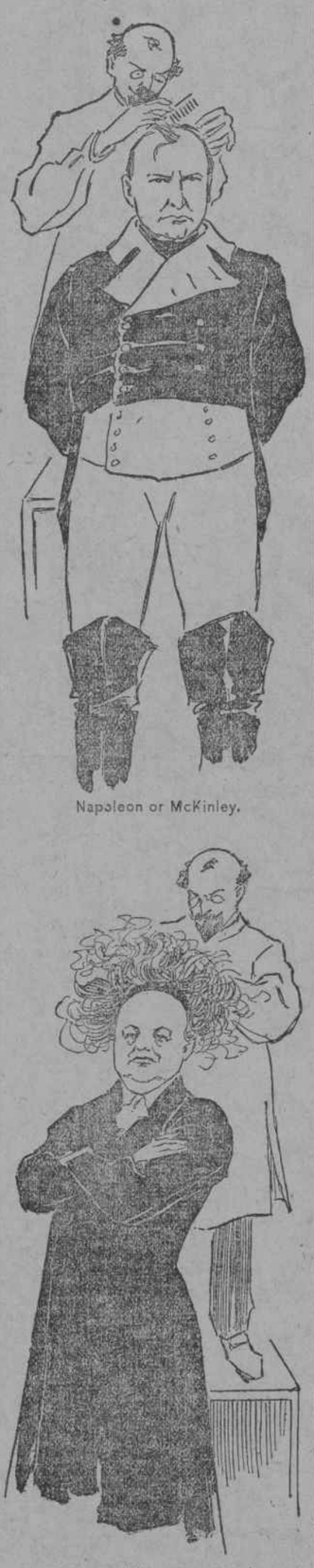
Last year's queen is still washing cheerfully away, with a fair outlook of becoming an "old maid," for though she has had many offers of marriage, because of her royal honors she has refused them all. Her laundry specialty is pocket handkerchiefs and the bosoms of shirts.

TWINKLING HATS.

Two Fashionably Clad Young Men Who Parade Broadway at Night for Advertising Purposes.

After dark pedestrians on upper Broadway are nightly amused and the object of the promoter of the exhibition is attained by the sudden appearance upon the high hats of a couple of tall young men, clad in correct evening dress, of letters in colors that form the name of a brand of cigars or cigarettes. At first glance the pair would be taken for young men of fashion "doing the grand." Within each hat is an incandescent electric lamp connected with a storage battery, the current of which is turned off and on by the wearer, who presses a switch concealed in his pocket. The letters of the advertisement are cut out of the hat and covered with colored isinglass. The hat is startling when first observed.

Cleveland Becomes Bismarck.



Napoleon or McKinley.

Paderewski Becomes Reed

Transforming Victoria into Senator Hill.

STATESMEN IN WAX.

Plaster Figures For the Coming Campaign.

PADEREWSKI BECOMES REED.

Bismarck Makes Cleveland Simply by Changing His Clothes.

One morning last week a Sunday Journal reporter strolled into the workshops of a wax-works exhibition and chatted for an hour with the chief artist of the staff of wax-workers. He stood upon a tall box working industriously upon a head that might have belonged to anybody in town.

"You catch me at the worst minute for me. If the boy had kept you ringing the bell five minutes longer I should have had something to show you. As it is"— A shrug nearly lifted the pointed beard of the artist to a level with the sharp-looking spectacles.

"To tell you frankly, I am transforming the features of Queen Victoria to those of Hill. Victoria's birthday is coming, but we have something new for that. At present there is a demand for Hill. 'Have you got Hill? Where is Hill?' our country visitors ask, and I have promised to get Hill ready for the opening this afternoon.

"For Hill we take off Victoria's hair, clipping it short in the back and pulling it out on top. We put a mustache on her and we take off her skirt and wrap. The attitude is like Hill's. Dressed up in a black suit, with one hand on her knee, Victoria will be David B. Hill before she knows it. We will place him in the Democratic council scene, and he will be stared at as though he had never exchanged identity with the Queen. Is it easy to do? Oh, yes. Victoria's features and figure readily become Hill.

"Now you are going to say that our art exhibition would be a disappointment to the public if they could see it being prepared. But there you are mistaken. Where we can 'assist' one figure, as we call it, we have to make a hundred. Often we count on assisting, and cannot manage it.

"In the case of Elizabeth Cady Stanton's big birthday celebration, I wanted to use Cleveland with gray puffs on each side of his face and a white lace shawl. But our manager wouldn't allow it. 'Make a new figure for Elizabeth,' he said, 'and you can use it for Morton afterwards.'

"I knew better, but I went to work. I set the manikin girls at work upon the figure, and the wardrobe woman to getting the drapery arranged. We moulded an entirely new head, put in big blue eyes, threaded all that gray hair through the scalp and seated her on a platform with a group of woman's rights people around her. That figure, counting the six ounces of gray hair, cost us $500, but I followed out my orders.

"And what was the result? Why, she's set away now to remain until she has passed away into history. She wouldn't make Morton. We would have had to shave her off, build her up taller, scalp her, put on a flat wig and take off two of her chins. It couldn't be done. The manager realized that he had tied up money, but it couldn't be helped then.

"You want to know how a wax figure can cost $500? I tell you it could cost $700 without any effort on our part to spend money.

"First, we have to get a plaster cast of the person. This is hard to get and expensive. We get a plaster head of people as soon as they become prominent and lay it away in the workshop. Suddenly they make a speech or kill somebody, and then we melt up the wax, color it pink, if it is a woman, stir in a little red if it is a man, and pour it into the mould.

"When it is in we let it stand until the outside has cooled enough to make a shell. We turn it then right side up, and the wax runs out, leaving the head hollow. Then we turn it over to the feature artist.

"He takes it upon his shelf and shaves off the creases made by the seams in the cast. And when he has got it as fair as a pink rose or smooth as a red beet, he reaches up inside the head with a hot piece of metal, and holds the hot end where the eye ought to be, until there is an eye socket in the wax. Of course the place for the eye has been provided for in the cast.

"The eyes are fastened in place inside the head, and the eyelids are moulded by hand until they are drooping enough for a life-like appearance.

The head now goes to the hairdresser, and the real work begins. If it is a woman, it is a long and painstaking operation that now comes off, but if it is a man it is not so very long, unless it is a man with hair like Calvin S. Brice. I declare I was tempted to wig him by the time the hairdresser had worked a day and had only two inches of that ruddy, curly hair in place.

"The hair is put in by needles. Two needles are stuck in the end of a stick. The hair is pressed upon the scalp, and the needles bury it in the wax. When we made Harrison we used an ounce of hair—which is a great deal for a man—but you must remember that beard of his, short and full of hairs. That took time, and now they say he isn't going to run. But we wax-work people have to take our risks.

"We love Cleveland. He is our greatest pet. If we could we would elect him. On account of his politics? I'm afraid no. But you see he's such a capital subject. Look at that Cleveland now standing over there! He is dressed like Bismarck on account of the celebration in Germany we have been having. But Bismarck will become Cleveland as soon as a dress suit is put on him and a little coloring done.

"I am going to do a funny thing now. I have to laugh when I do it. I make Reed out of another public character. For Reed I scalp Paderewski. Paderewski, you say, has a pointed face. So he had, but when we thought of making Reed out of him, we moulded a little wax around his chin and cheeks, and now he is Reed. The clothes? Oh, we used Reed's old manikin. If Paderewski should run away with a millionaire's daughter, we will shave off Reed's cheeks quickly, put on his wig, and have Paderewski skimming the keys of our parlor grand piano, the one that is now being played by 'Calve in her own home.'

"We have to make forty figures this week to get ready for our political opening. We can only transform a few characteristic faces, you know. Do we use the wardrobes over again? Oh, yes. Look," pointing to a figure of a woman kneeling without any clothes on; "that's Eugenie at the tomb of the Prince Imperial. We took off her mourning for Mme. Carnot. But we will put it back on her, as she is one of the standards."

SOME LUCKY DATES.

Men Born About This Time of Year Are Supposed to Have a Thirst for Knowledge and to Be Cautious.

It is strange that people should worry about the future at all, inasmuch as the ancient sages settled all such little matters as success or failure, health or illness, intellect or dulness and shortness or length of life by a simple reference to the picture on the front page of the almanac, depicting a young man in the altogether, surrounded by a lot of rams, bulls, twins, crabs, lions, seals and other devices known as the signs of the zodiac.

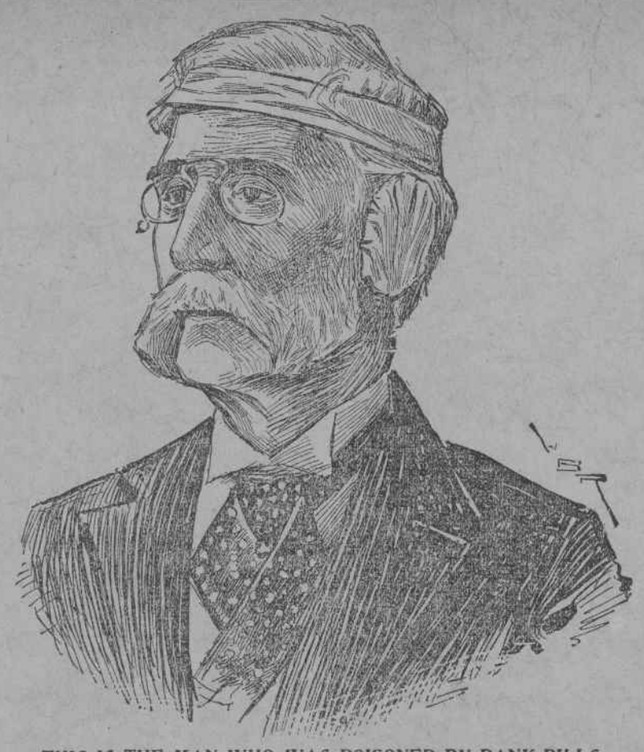
Should your birthday occur after February 21 and before March 21 you are, according to the astrologer, "born in Pisces." The "Pisces" are the two little fish crossed at the feet of the young man in the almanac, "at the foot of the serving department," to be technical.

In that case you will be interested in all that relates to physical nature.

Men born in this sign are sometimes called walking encyclopedias. They are cautious and require a reason for everything. They are very conscientious and lack self-confidence from the fact that they cannot bear to be under obligations for anything and are afraid of failing, for fear they will not give satisfaction and an equivalent for what they get. Especially fond of history. Have mechanical ability. Make good engineers. Liable to be troubled with headache from stomach troubles.

To marry happily a man born between February 21 and March 21 should marry a woman born between August 22 and September 22. By this means he will secure a mate of "fine intuitions. She will have great power of sight, taking in everything at a glance on entering a room or on opening a page in a book. She will show fine discrimination in all departments of life, particularly of foods, and can be safely intrusted to do the family marketing."

She will, however, be very selfish and desirous of being the controlling influence in the home or in anything else that she may be engaged in. In this respect the woman of August 22 to September 22 is the typical "new woman," but she will also be found to be domestic and keenly interested in the little details of home life.



THIS IS THE MAN WHO WAS POISONED BY BANK BILLS.

POISONED BY MONEY.

Greenbacks Endanger a City Official's Life.

VICTIM OF A CURIOUS DISEASE.

The Affliction Puzzles the Doctors and Tortures the Sufferer.

Money has become the root of an entirely new evil in New York, and the victim, Mr. Grant Whalen, cashier of the city Excise Board, has been badly poisoned by coming in contact with thousands of dollars of the city's money.

Cashier Whalen handles more money in the course of a year than any other of the city's employes. Every saloon keeper in the city, both great and small, is obliged to bring a tithe of his profits to the City Fathers, and all of this enormous revenue must first pass through the little round window in front of Mr. Whalen's desk. The money literally passes through the cashier's hands.

A large part of the bank notes which reach the cashier are so filthy and dirty looking that one would hesitate almost to touch them. All bank notes which have been in use for some time become more or less soiled, but these are ofter stained and encrusted with filth. Each one of these bits of paper forms a nest for all sorts of microbes. Mr. Whalen counts the money over two or three times. For a long time he has felt some repugnance, but experienced at first no inconvenience, except that he found himself with very dirty hands most of the time. He is a nervous man and has a habit of stroking his face constantly. He puts his hand to his face every few moments while at work and scratches his nose or strokes his mustache. It was in this way that the poison germs reached his face.

The skin of the face is, of course, much more sensitive than the hands, and therefore more susceptible to poison. The poisonous bank notes failed to affect the cashier's hands, which had become callous from handling millions of money. No sooner, however, had these poison germs been carried to the fact that the skin, and soon after his entire system, became affected.

The first signs of poison were noticed about two weeks ago. The skin of Mr. Whalen's face became irritated and inflamed with a curious rash. In a day or two this began to itch violently, so that Mr. Whalen was kept awake at night. The poison spread over the neck and in a few days the cashier's head was also completely covered with this curious red inflammation. Several of the doctors of the Board of Health, whose offices are next door, were consulted. They pronounced it poison, but were at a loss for any name to give it. They had never come across just such a case before in their lives. They prescribed various healing salves and lotions to be applied externally and several very bad doses of medicine.

The victim of this curious malady grew worse rapidly instead of better. The skin became covered with scabs, which peeled off, leaving an almost raw surface. The neck and face and even the inside of the ears were covered with this painful growth. Mr. Whalen was obliged to appear at his desk day after day with his head, face and neck swathed in cotton bandages. No victim of poison ivy ever suffered more from poison. Of course, the system was more or less affected, and the patient suffered from general lassitude and fevers.

But this was not the worst of it. The poison spread over the cashier's face to his eyes and threatened to destroy his sight. The skin about the eyes became so swollen that they were almost closed up, which caused the poor fellow to blink in a very funny way. The doctors of the Board of Health, who were meantime in attendance, became alarmed at this new feature of the disease and advised Mr. Whalen to consult an oculist without delay. It is due to the very careful attention that Mr. Whalen received that he is not to-day totally blind. The lids of the eyes were badly swollen and the eyeballs became dangerously inflamed.

When a Sunday Journal reporter called upon Mr. Whalen last week he found the victim of this curious case of poison convalescent. He still wore great bandages about his neck and ears. These latter appendages were, besides, stuffed with cotton and salves, but the swelling had gone down considerably on the cashier's face, and about the eyes. Mr. Whalen's face looks very much as if he were recovering from the smallpox. It is marked all over with little red spots which have been left the scabs. His eyes also look very much inflamed and he still wears a pair of smoked glasses for fear that even an ordinarily bright light would strain the eyes.

This object lesson on the possibilities of money transmitting disease by germs will be carefully investigated by the Board of Health. The transmission of money from hand to hand might be a very prolific channel by which contagious diseases of all kinds could be circulated. Money, it can be readily understood, becomes the greatest menace to public health in a city like New York, where it is handled hourly by all sorts and conditions of men and women.

MOON SIXTY MILES OFF.

Wonderful Powers of the 40-inch Yerkes Lens.

NOW WE CAN STUDY LUNA'S MY.

Stargazing Possibilities with the Biggest Telescope Ever Built.

The moon has been brought to within a distance of sixty miles from the earth! How near this is you can tell from the accompanying picture. If, on the same scale, the smaller globe, representing the moon, were removed to her proper distance, she would occupy a position about 83 feet away from the observer, more than the width of three city lots. You need not worry, however, for fear that your equilibrium may be disturbed by this somewhat astounding proximity, for, unless you should chance to be one of those extremely fortunate persons who will have an opportunity of looking through the 40-inch lens of the big Yerkes telescope, now about completed, the moon will appear to maintain her usual distance.

This telescope, which is by far the largest in the world, brings the moon almost before your very nose. Its greatest magnifying power, under favorable circumstances, is four thousand, which will locate the satellite in the position you see, on a comparative small scale, in the illustration. At such a distance it will be an easy matter to make out a building as large as the Capitol at Washington, provided a building of that size exists on the moon's surface.

The situation would be somewhat as if an observer stationed on the top of the monument in Baltimore were looking across country to the National Capitol, roughly, about 60 miles away.

Professor Young, the learned astronomer of Princeton College, suggests, in the North American Review, that a body much smaller than the Capitol could be made out through the telescope, provided it was of such a color as to offer a contrast to the general hue of the moon's surface. "A line," he says, "much narrower than this (the Capitol), especially if it differed much in color or brightness from the background, would at once attract attention, and so would any brilliant object, even if no larger or brighter than an ordinary arc light."

But though the observer could see the Capitol, and perhaps even smaller buildings, it would be quite impossible for him to make out objects so small as human beings. This may be difficult to comprehend at first thought, but will be clear if you imagine that you took up the former position on the top of the monument at Baltimore and looked over toward the Capitol at Washington. The magnificent pile would appear as an uneven blur on the landscape. Perhaps, by straining your eyes, and if the day was a good one, you could make out the dome. But as for seeing distinguished Senators and Representatives on the plaza and streets, that would be quite impossible.

In looking through an ordinary telescope the observer can see the entire globe of the moon in the field of view. But through the Yerkes, when using a high magnifying power, only a part of the satellite can be seen at one time. The reason for this is perhaps obvious even to those who are not skilled in astronomical matters. If you look out of the window at a house a few blocks away you can see as much of the house as though you were looking at it from a point out of doors—in other words, you can see all of it. But if the house were moved up to within a few yards of the window you could only see a section of it. It is just so with the big Yerkes telescope. The moon is brought so close that she more than fills the field of view. Consequently, she must be examined in instalments, somewhat after the manner of a panorama.

When working with these high powers the astronomers who have control of the Yerkes instruments will not have plain sailing, by any means. Unless the earth's atmosphere is quiet and undisturbed by differences in temperature and electrical discharges and wind currents, they will be placed at a considerable disadvantage. The earth's atmosphere is the bogie man of practical astronomers. One scientific star-gazer grievously lamented in a book which he was writing on the parallax of certain double stars and other intelligible matters, that the earth had no atmospheres at all. He would much prefer to have the whole thing swept away, so that he might work in peace.

There are very few places on the earth when the conditions for using a telescope of high magnifying power are ordinarily favorable. The managers of the Harvard observatory, of Cambridge, Mass., were obliged to go as far from home as Arequipa, Peru, in order to establish a station where they might be reasonably safe from atmospheric disturbances. The observatory which will contain the Yerkes telescope, though belonging to the University of Chicago, will be located on the southern shore of Lake Geneva, about seventy-five miles to the northwest, and a few miles beyond the Illinois State line. This site is a hundred and eighty feet above the water. Professor Young is of the opinion that this site is the best possible one under the circumstances. The atmospheric conditions are undoubtedly better than nearer Lake Michigan.

It is likely that as soon as the telescope is set up—which will be very soon—some startling discoveries will be made, not only with regard to the moon, but also with regard to other heavenly bodies. The attention of astronomers all over the world is directed toward Chicago University, and all are prepared to be pleasantly surprised.

Possibly a new planet may be discovered. Jupiter may be found to possess another moon, which would make six moons in all, the last one having remained in obscurity until the powerful Lick telescope was turned upon it. Possibly the earth itself has another little satellite skimming around us away off in space; interesting facts should be learned with regard to Mercury, the smallest planet and the nearest to the sun, and about whose physical characteristics little is known at present; perhaps Vulcan, the mystical planet between Mercury and the sun, may really prove to exist; a long-disputed problem as to Venus will be settled, and we shall know whether she rotates on her axis once in about twenty-four hours or once in each of her revolutions about the sun.

There is very little chance that the presence of living creatures on the moon will be detected even with so powerful a telescope, for the reason that there is no way in which a creature could support life there. There is neither air, water nor vegetation. But it is by no means improbable that the evidences of a previous existence of some sort of animate beings may be discovered. The ruins of a decayed temple, if it had been of rather extraordinary size, would be visible. Artificial excavations or structures might also be detected by the eagle eye of the astronomer.

The once much-disputed question as to whether our moon has an atmosphere will probably be settled once for all, and that in the negative. This question for a long time offered an inviting puzzle to astronomers, and it was once thought that, during a total eclipse of the sun (when the moon comes directly between the earth and the sun), an atmosphere had been seen, stretching for miles out into space on all sides and brilliantly illuminated by the sun's rays. But this "atmosphere" was subsequently discovered to be an attachment of the sun, not of the moon. It was the corona and prominences, a magnificent display of incandescent gases playing about the sun's surface, and invisible from the earth under ordinary circumstances.

By the new telescope the atmosphere on the moon may be searched for by observing closely the moon's passage over stars that lie in its path. This passage, or blotting out of stars, (called by astronomers "occultation"), would be more or less gradual if there were an atmosphere on the moon. The bright body of the star on entering the outskirts of atmospheric band would grow dim and hazy and would increase in dimness and haziness until it finally stole out of view. But if there be no atmosphere, the disappearance, instead of being a gradual "stealing out of view," would be a sudden vanishing. One instant you would see the star shining brilliantly in all its glory. The next instant it simply would not be there. This is, no doubt, what will be seen through the new telescope.

The largest reflecting telescope in existence, with the exception of the Yerkes, is the Lick telescope, at Mount Hamilton. The object glasses of both instruments were made by Alvan G. Clark, survivor of the firm of Clark & Sons, Cambridge, Mass. The telescope and mountings are entirely of American construction, with the exception of the glass from which one of the lenses was made. This was made by Mantois, of Paris, the only firm in the world which at present can furnish disks of the size and quality desired.

The mass of the whole telescope is seventy-five tons, yet it is poised with such nicety that it may be turned in any direction by the weight of the hand. The great tube itself weighs six tons, and is sixty-one feet long. The lens is forty inches in diameter, and two and a half inches thick in the middle; the diameter of the Lick lens is but thirty-six inches.

HOW THINGS WILL LOOK WITH THE MOON SIXTY MILES OFF.

A PUZZLE FOR ARCTIC EXPLORERS

FIND AN UNOBSTRUCTED PASSAGE THROUGH THE ICE TO THE POLE